

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A facsimile apparatus provided with a  
confidential reception function, comprising:  
a memory which stores received confidential image  
data;  
a notification data transmission means for  
transmitting notification data indicating that the  
confidential image data has not been retrieved, in the  
event that the confidential image data stored in the memory  
area has not been retrieved in a predetermined time; and  
a deletion means for deleting the confidential  
image data from the memory in response to the completion of  
transmission of said notification data by the notification  
data transmission means.

2. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said notification data includes at least  
a part of the confidential image data.

3. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said notification data includes a time  
information of the confidential image data transmission.

4. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said notification data includes an addressee information of the confidential image.

5. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
5 wherein said notification data includes an information providing notification that the confidential image was erased.

6. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
10 further comprising:  
a retransmission means for re-transmitting the notification data when the transmission of the notification data is not completed successfully.

7. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 6,  
15 further comprising:  
a prohibiting means for prohibiting said deletion of the confidential image when the transmission of the notification data is not completed after predetermined  
20 times of said retransmission.

8. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
further comprising:  
a identification means for identifying  
25 transmitter telephone number based on transmitted data;

wherein said memory stores the transmitter telephone number in connection with the confidential image.

9. ~~A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 8,~~  
wherein said notification data transmission means transmits the notification data using the identified ~~telephone number by the identification means.~~

10. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said memory stores the time of receipt of the confidential image in connection with the confidential image.

11. A facsimile apparatus provided with a confidential reception function, comprising:  
a memory which stores received confidential image data;

an output means for outputting the stored confidential image data in response to input of a password by an operator;

a determination means for determining whether or not the confidential image data has been output by the output means within a predetermined time after its reception;

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5 a notification data transmission means for transmitting notification data indicating that confidential image data has not been output, in the event that the determination means has determined that output of the confidential image data has not been performed;

a detection means for detecting proper completion of transmission of the notification data; and

10 a deletion means for deleting the confidential image data from the memory in response to detection by the detection means.

12. A facsimile apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said notification data includes at least a part of the confidential image data.

15 13. A managing method for a confidential received image in a facsimile apparatus provided with a confidential reception function, comprising the steps of:

20 receiving confidential image data and storing the image data in a memory;

monitoring whether the stored confidential image data has been output within a predetermined time after the reception;

transmitting notification data indicating that  
output has not occurred, in the event that output has not  
occurred within the predetermined time;

5 detecting proper completion of transmission of  
the notification data; and

deleting the confidential image data from the  
memory in response to the detection.

14. A managing method as claimed in claim 13,  
wherein said notification data includes at least  
a part of the confidential image data.

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